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STATUS AND RESULTS OF HOME  
DEMONSTRATION WORK

NORTHERN AND WESTERN STATES, 1921.

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NATURE AND PURPOSE OF HOME DEMONSTRATION WORK.

Extension work for the home is a part of the nation-wide system of extension service carried on by State agricultural colleges in cooperation with the United States Department of Agriculture under authority granted by Congress in the cooperative agricultural extension act of May 8, 1914, known as the Smith-Lever Act. This work includes practical home and group demonstrations in every phase of home economics and agriculture that directly contributes to the efficiency, comfort, health, and economic advancement of the rural home.

It is carried on by home demonstration agents who, though trained in home economics, are not specialists but serve as organizers, advisers, and cooperators with housewives of the county which constitutes their working unit. Here, together with the county agricultural agent, the club agent, and specialists from the college, intensive service is extended which has as its aim the advancement of economic, educational, and social rural home life.

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This work is now organized to conform to the idea of community self-determination and leadership in assisting farming people to unify community forces in a common program of home work, training volunteer leaders, and developing neighborhood groups to carry out projects, thus providing a channel through which the State agricultural colleges and the United States Department of Agriculture may give such assistance and cooperation in home-making problems as the farming people may need and desire.

### DEVELOPMENT OF THE WORK.

December, 1921, brought to a close the seventh year of home demonstration work as carried on cooperatively in the Northern and Western States. It also marked the beginning of a new period in the development of extension work with the home, resulting from a re-organization along broader lines of the Office of Extension Work of the States Relations Service.

A brief review of the history of the work, therefore, may be of interest at this time. Long before the passage of the Smith-Lever Act women pioneers in the home economics movement who were connected with State agricultural colleges were meeting with farm women and girls at farmers' institutes, extension schools, and other gatherings, and offering to the farming people in the communities the resources of the colleges along home-making lines, thus laying a foundation for later accomplishments in extension work.

Thoughtful men and women seeing the value of this limited service visioned what the farm home might become if the resources of the laboratory could be linked with its everyday problems, and if the accumulated judgment and skill of practical housewives could be pooled and made available to all. Sentiment for such work was expressed in the provisions of the Smith-Lever Act, which inaugurated a far-reaching service for the farm home, recognizing the part it plays in an efficient agricultural program.

During the first two years after the passage of the act the production phase of the extension program was given special consideration, with the limited funds available, and it was not until the spring of 1916 that home demonstration work as a cooperative enterprise was introduced in the Northern and Western States with the appointment of an agent in Sullivan County, N. H. This appointment was soon followed by others in Erie and Otsego Counties, N. Y., Cheshire County, N. H., Hampden County, Mass., and Waukegan County, Ill. Some of these counties previously conducted work of the same general character on State funds, the first county home work of which we have record in the Northern and Western States being that in Erie County, N. Y., which began in August, 1914.

By June 30, 1917, the number of home demonstration agents in the Northern and Western States had reached 28, with about an equal distribution as to number in the Far West, Middle West, and East. There were at that time 542 county agricultural agents, 437 agricultural specialists, and 50 home economics specialists in the same States. While the State colleges had in those days no definite plans for conducting the work of home demonstration agents, the purpose which prompted their appointment was a service to the rural homes along

similar lines to that extended by the county agricultural agents to the farms.

The World War brought about a rapid increase in the number of home demonstration agents during 1918, when 790 women were placed on the rolls of the State colleges and the United States Department of Agriculture, supported largely by the war emergency act, which provided for national security and defense by stimulating agriculture and facilitating the distribution and conservation of agricultural products. The part played by these agents during the war was important, since they were in many cases the only paid trained workers in home activities cooperating with Federal and other agencies, and assisting housewives in their part in the war program. Of these 790 agents, 117 were, as a war measure, placed in cities and urban communities. While this work proved of great value as an emergency measure, the pressure of miscellaneous war demands gave little opportunity for demonstrating its real character or for building an organization for its permanent functioning.

At the close of the war, when the emergency funds were withdrawn, the number of appointments was reduced to those agents whose work had become organized and established and whose support was partly provided by local funds. On June 30, 1919, there were 209 home demonstration agents and 69 State workers in the Northern and Western States; on June 30, 1920, there was a total number of 286 workers; and on June 30, 1921, there was a well-organized force of 304 workers.

The following table shows the development of the work to date and the amount of funds from all sources expended for its promotion:

*Number of home demonstration workers cooperatively employed June 30 each year and total funds expended.*

Item.	1916	1917	1918	1919	1920	1921
Workers.....	4	28	803	609	286	304
Funds.....	\$7,383.33	\$50,042.33	\$1,270,675	\$1,593,400	\$747,360	\$947,497

The diagram (Fig. 1) shows the slow development of the work at the beginning, with a sharp curve upward when the war pointed out the necessity for home efficiency in conservation; the decided reduction in the work in one year, when State and Federal funds were diminished; and the present number of 304 workers, which represents a group of mature, well-trained women whose work has become a stable and permanent factor of the organized life of the counties where they have been placed in direct response to local demand, and where farm women are organized and taking aggressive leadership in promoting the work.

#### PRESENT STATUS.

An analysis of extension work with women, based upon field observations and annual reports, shows clearly that in spite of necessary retrenchments which have prevented substantial expansion, advance has been made, not only in organization, but in actual accomplishments measured in terms of improved standards of living

in the more than 22,000 communities reached. These results of the united efforts of home demonstration agents and specialists in the various phases of home economics and agriculture, which far surpass those of last year, were made possible through increased interest and activity on the part of farm women themselves, wider use of project leaders, and more general establishment of home demonstrations for the improvement of home practices.

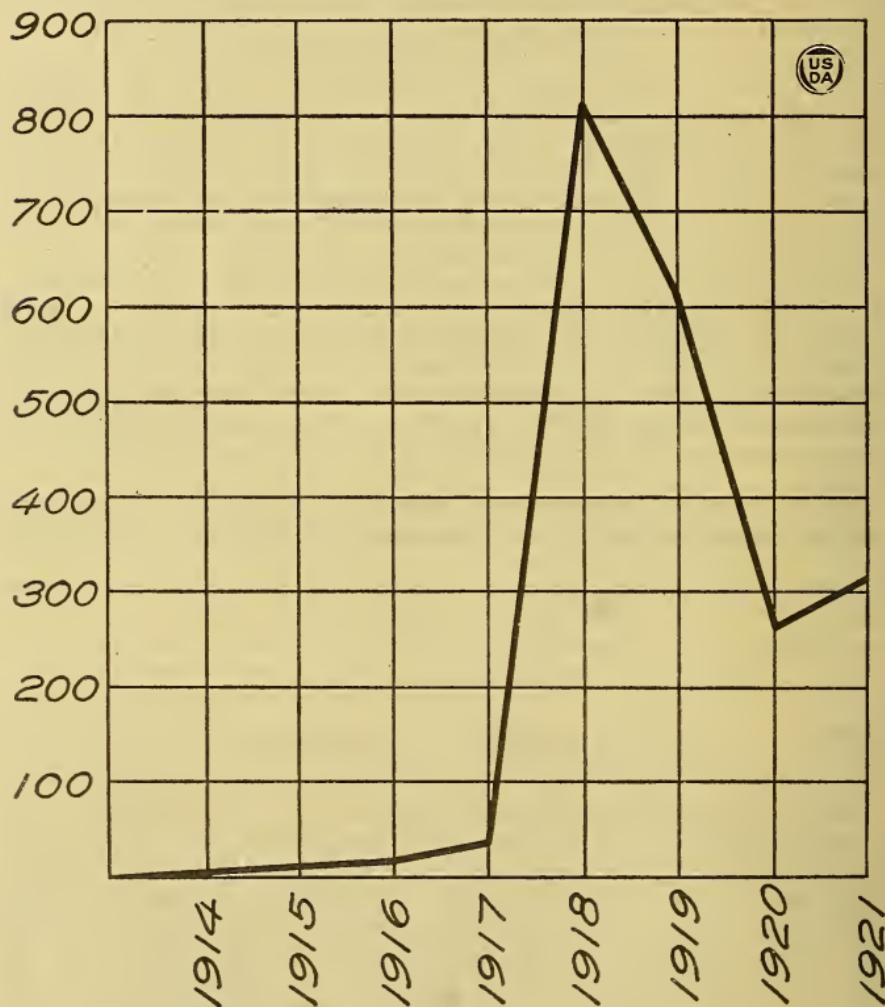


FIG. 1.—Growth of home demonstration work in the Northern and Western States, 1914-1921.

#### HOME MAKERS AS COWORKERS.

Although the increase in the number of workers was slight, records show that there are practically 35,800 more women members of extension organizations in 1921 than in 1920; that 4,864 new communities adopted projects, with an increase of 8,993 project leaders; and that 37,135 more demonstrations were established, with

an additional 2,119 training classes for leadership. Below are comparative figures:

*Comparative figures showing increase in home demonstration work in 1921.*

Item.	Total number.		Average per community.		Average per county.	
	1920. <sup>1</sup>	1921. <sup>1</sup>	1920. <sup>1</sup>	1921. <sup>1</sup>	1920. <sup>1</sup>	1921. <sup>1</sup>
Counties with agents.....	251	267	.....	.....	345	459
Women members of extension organizations.....	86,725	122,521	.....	.....	69	83
Community groups adopting projects.....	17,399	22,263	4	5	69	98
Project leaders.....	17,379	26,372	4	6	69	98
Home demonstrations established.....	71,071	108,206	17	25	283	405
Families adopting suggestions.....	108,417	219,765	26	52	432	823

<sup>1</sup> December of each year.

One of many instances of the development of local leadership among women is noted in a report from New York, which states that, although extension instruction through local leadership was used in only one project at the beginning of the year, it had spread to 28 counties in the clothing work, to 9 counties in the nutrition work, and to several counties in health, recreation, and civics. From practically all of the counties it was reported that local women were showing leadership to a much more marked degree than in the past. What this will do toward formulating sound and vital programs of work and toward carrying them out is apparent. Not only is the agent's time being freed for constructive planning to a greater extent than in the past, but there is the impetus which comes from the understanding and enthusiasm of coworkers.

It was reported that the assumption of responsibility by the local women was the most outstanding feature of the development of home demonstration work in New Jersey during the year 1921.

#### AGENTS AND FUNDS.

In December, 1920, there were 251 home demonstration agents in the Northern and Western States. In December, 1921, this number had increased to 267 in 31 States, two States having no home demonstration agents. The following 15 States added a total of 38 agents during the year: Arizona, California, Idaho, Illinois, Iowa, Maine, Minnesota, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, North Dakota, Ohio, Oregon, Rhode Island, and Vermont. Ohio, adding the largest number, introduced the work in eight counties. Four States made no change in the number of agents. In 12 States the number was decreased by 22, discontinuance of the work being due in most cases to necessary economies in the expenditure of public funds. Reports from these States indicate that the work was not only appreciated, but heartily indorsed by the people, who now look forward to its establishment on a permanent basis.

Total expenditures for home demonstration work during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1921, were \$947,497, \$350,082 being from Federal sources, \$312,099 from State sources, and \$285,316 from sources within the counties. This is an increase of approximately \$200,000 over the

expenditures of the previous fiscal year. A greater part of this amount was absorbed by increased compensation to agents, improved office equipment, and the provision for upkeep of automobiles, all of which items made for efficiency in the work.

Funds amounting to an approximate total of \$1,393,327 have been appropriated for carrying on home demonstration work for the fiscal year 1921-22, divided as follows: From Federal sources, \$419,054; from State sources, \$361,628; and from sources within the counties, \$612,645. This is an increase of approximately 18 per cent over total funds appropriated for the previous year, the difference being in Federal and county funds. Twenty-one of the States show an increase in county appropriations for home demonstration work.

### LIVING STANDARDS RAISED.

Living standards were raised in more than 22,000 communities through various lines of work, as shown in the following table:

*Comparative study of various projects.*

Project.	Community groups adopting practices.		Project leaders.		Demonstrations established.		Families adopting suggestions.	
	1920	1921	1920	1921	1920	1921	1920	1921
Clothing.....	4,983	8,508	4,672	10,519	19,271	55,527	28,247	85,272
Nutrition.....	3,599	3,411	3,033	3,417	16,203	15,807	21,249	36,185
Home management.....	1,281	1,411	1,092	931	5,461	5,938	8,224	9,742
Health.....	1,315	1,493	1,268	1,374	5,423	12,088	5,512	21,737
Food preservation.....	1,678	1,076	1,325	882	14,296	6,181	16,283	23,812
Food production.....	1,290	1,241	1,354	2,009	5,330	4,291	8,852	10,790
House planning and furnishing.....	404	483	352	332	1,295	1,948	1,167	3,136
Community enterprises.....	762	1,114	674	929	828	443		
Total.....	15,312	18,737	13,770	20,393	68,107	102,223	89,540	190,674

This table indicates by projects the increase in the volume of work accomplished during 1921, as compared with 1920, as to (1) number of communities interested, (2) number of project leaders carrying on the projects, (3) number of home demonstrations established, and (4) number of families adopting suggestions. It also gives significant information by communities as to types of work chosen and carried to completion by the farm women in cooperation with the home demonstration agents employed.

Work reported was principally along lines of foods and nutrition, clothing, convenience in home equipment, skill in household tasks, business efficiency in handling funds for the maintenance of the home, health, beauty, and comfort through the improvement of home buildings, home furnishings and surroundings, community spirit, recreation, and citizenship. The table following shows the number of communities carrying on work in all lines.

## Projects in home demonstration work by communities.

Project.	Number of communities adopting practices.			
	Eastern.	Central.	Western.	Total.
Organization.....	1,179	986	605	2,770
Food production:				
Gardening.....		105	59	164
Poultry.....		659	250	909
Dairying.....		59	109	168
Food preservation:				
Canning.....	312	217	251	780
Drying.....	36	21	84	141
Brining.....	21	9	52	82
Storing.....	21	6	46	73
Nutrition:				
Food selection.....	377	426	94	897
School lunches.....	262	1,243	187	1,692
Child feeding.....	63	259	123	445
Milk feeding demonstrations.....	39	289	49	377
Boys' and girls' club work.....	191	474	136	801
Health:				
Child care.....	170	586	42	798
Home nursing.....	226	114	78	418
Sanitation.....	114	79	84	277
Clothing:				
Selection of textiles and clothing.....	426	433	150	1,009
Garment making.....	563	565	456	1,584
Renovating.....	257	157	127	541
Millinery.....	918	392	498	1,808
Dress forms.....	1,058	1,458	650	3,166
Home management:				
Home accounts.....	185	280	107	572
Equipment.....	307	286	149	742
Methods.....	55	30	12	97
House planning and furnishing:				
Building and remodeling.....	42	39	47	128
Decorating and furnishing.....	73	131	64	268
Planning home grounds.....	5	45	37	87
Community enterprises:				
Community centers.....	57		5	62
Cooked food.....	8		2	10
Canning.....	8		1	9
Drying.....		1	3	4
Demonstration.....	9	6	7	22
Milk stations.....	14	1		15
Cooperative buying associations.....	83	5	40	128
Cooperative selling associations.....	4	4	22	30
Salvage shops.....	9	1		10
Community rest rooms.....	32	52	6	99
Community study tours.....	19	83	10	112
Community recreation centers.....	110	75	34	219
Community or civic improvement.....	133	23	17	173
Community library or reading circle.....	120	58	11	189
Cooperative laundries.....	6	34	1	41

## ACTIVITIES OF HOME DEMONSTRATION AGENTS.

All projects show a gradual shifting of emphasis from the more fragmentary and isolated aspects of subjects to their broader and more practical lines. For example, from phases of work in food preservation and preparation have unfolded the foods and nutrition program, which relates itself to the whole science of healthful living. No longer is clothing considered as a means only of meeting the immediate needs of the family wardrobe, but rather as a permanent help to the farm woman in handling with efficiency her whole problem of clothing the family, as this relates itself to economy, comfort, beauty, and health through a mastery of the clothing budget.

## FOODS AND NUTRITION.

Some phases of the broad subject of foods and their uses in relation to human efficiency have been considered in connection with the

program of every State. This is an encouraging fact in view of the prevalence of malnutrition existing in all classes of homes. The matter of choice and preparation of food as a means of building strong bodies, while in some measure dependent upon income, is far more dependent upon information in the hands of home makers. Food selection, a better balanced diet, feeding the preschool child, food resources and food supply, which include gardening, poultry raising, and dairying, the substituting of home-grown foods for those which if purchased would reduce cash resources for meeting other family needs, are parts of the present program for the maintenance of healthful men and women and the bodily development of growing boys and girls. As a direct result of the nutrition demonstration last year in a Massachusetts town 2,300 children were benefited. Milk campaigns carried on in seven counties in the State of Washington where there are home demonstration agents reached 55,638 children, and 3,486 children were reported as having begun to drink milk daily as a result of the campaign, while 5,658 increased the amount of milk consumed.

The following table shows that more than 14,000 farm families changed their food habits during the year as the result of extension work in nutrition, and indicates the growing importance attached to a properly balanced diet:

*Results of food selection work.*

Item.	Eastern.	Central.	Western.	Total.
	Number.	Number.	Number.	Number.
Families changing food habits.....	4,023	9,763	917	14,703
Counties adopting practices.....	53	64	22	139
Communities adopting practices.....	377	426	94	897
Project leaders.....	338	478	108	924
Demonstrations established.....	907	2,810	609	4,326

The following tables show that while the schools in which hot lunches were established as a part of the extension program decreased from 2,930 during 1920 to 2,654 during 1921, the children enrolled in nutrition groups increased to 4,752, indicating that the school lunch is gradually ceasing to be a demonstration as it becomes an established part of school life and that nutrition work as an extension activity is taken more and more into homes, where considerable successful work in child feeding was carried on this year:

*Results of school lunch work.*

Item.	Eastern.	Central.	Western.	Total.
	Number.	Number.	Number.	Number.
Schools serving hot lunch: 1920.....	1,055	1,447	428	2,930
1921.....	831	1,556	267	2,654
Children reached: 1920.....	23,582	30,691	16,415	70,688
1921.....	37,431	37,311	10,415	85,157
Children bringing milk to school: 1920.....	7,971	4,349	3,502	15,822
1921.....	4,339	4,803	1,450	10,592
Children showing improvement in health: 1920.....	2,969	3,643	2,247	8,859
1921.....	4,478	4,968	3,859	13,305
Counties adopting practices, 1921.....	46	79	37	162
Communities adopting practices, 1921.....	262	1,243	187	1,692
Project leaders, 1921.....	184	1,079	147	1,410

## Results of child feeding work.

Item.	Eastern.	Central.	Western.	Total.
	Number.	Number.	Number.	Number.
Women enrolling children.....	205	407	578	1,190
Children enrolled.....	1,736	1,994	1,022	4,752
Families improving child feeding:				
Families.....	673	4,564	1,010	6,247
Children.....	796	6,440	1,232	8,468
Children giving up tea and coffee.....	1,421	6,385	1,252	9,058
Counties adopting practices.....	20	41	23	84
Communities adopting practices.....	63	259	123	445
Project leaders.....	58	329	115	502
Demonstrations established.....	189	1,538	949	2,676

## CLOTHING.

No other project shows so general a use of local leadership or so large a volume of work accomplished as does the project of clothing, which was carried on in every State.

A survey<sup>1</sup> made in 1919 of 10,000 representative farm homes in the Northern and Western States revealed the fact that 92 per cent of farm women did all or part of their own sewing. Adding to this the responsibility of the selection, care, and renovation of clothing, it will be seen that clothing the family is one of the major problems of the farm woman and may, in a measure, explain why 26 per cent of all home demonstrations reported were clothing demonstrations. This project has so broadened its scope as to develop on the part of farm women real mastery and skill along such lines as principles of construction and design, the use of a clothing budget, and general efficiency and judgment in matters of beauty, health, and economy as they pertain to clothing.

The popular demand for the making of the dress form, an activity which has been carried on in practically every county employing a home demonstration agent and in many counties without such agents, has been encouraged not only because of its value as a labor and time saver in home dressmaking, second only perhaps to the sewing machine, but because of the way in which this inexpensive bit of equipment has served as an opening wedge for local leadership, focusing the attention upon the idea that selected women may be trained by specialist or agent to carry forward in a county some definite phase of the project without the constant supervision of the agent. A companion piece of work has been the alteration of standard commercial patterns to make foundation patterns or guide patterns fitted to individual measure, which may be used to cut many types of under and outer garments.

All phases of the clothing work were planned for on an organized project basis in Vermont, and it is reported that there were more instances of leaders taking the responsibility of actually making demonstrations than in any other project. Every county in Ohio in which clothing work was done is reported asking for additional work, and it is anticipated that the spread of influence will be greatly increased as soon as a group of 160 local leaders complete their training and carry the work to their communities. Delaware reported the largest amount of work had been done in the clothing project. Also the

<sup>1</sup> U. S. Dept. Agr. Circ. 148, The farm woman's problems.

clothing project demanded more attention than any other piece of work carried on by home demonstration agents in Iowa and was presented in 669 communities in 23 counties, 308 training schools being held, and 1,491 local leaders secured and trained. From Maine it was reported that clothing was the project on which women were most anxious for help, as they do a large part of their own dressmaking as well as sewing for the family. The State leader reports also that it was easy to start other phases of the work from the dress-form meeting (Fig. 2). The woman who is too stout has that fact emphatically brought out and may be interested in correcting her diet. The proper height of working surfaces was brought up in one meeting.



FIG. 2.—A demonstration in making the dress form.

A woman who had had a dress form made stood looking at it. "Well," she said, "if I am as round shouldered as that I shall have my sink and table made higher."

Practical suggestions have been made on children's clothing, which is durable, easily made, and easily laundered. This has been especially useful when it included short cuts in the use of the sewing machine and its attachments.

Rural women have welcomed an explanation and practical application of such principles of color and design as have enabled them to choose from among stocks offered in the local store or in near-by towns materials, designs, or ready-made garments and hats suited to

features, figures, and coloring, and giving better satisfaction for money expended than those hitherto secured.

Instruction in the making of simple hats for women and children has been in demand, and this project also has been satisfactorily carried on through local leadership in a number of States with good results. This is the second year of millinery work in Idaho, and the State leader reports that the women have gained sufficient skill to construct almost any type of hat needed (Fig. 3). Some of the



FIG. 3.—A display of homemade hats.

women may not, of course, continue to make their hats, but the instruction received will aid them greatly in selecting hats or remodeling them for wear a second season. The total number of hats made in Idaho was 3,638, the saving being estimated at over \$19,000.

The following table shows each phase of the clothing project and the extent to which it was made a part of the extension program, including work in terms of demonstrations established. The total saving as a result of the clothing project is estimated at \$752,167.

*Results of clothing work.*

Item.	Eastern.	Central.	Western.	Total.
Persons taught by local women.....	13,361	23,638	10,942	47,941
New garments made.....	18,199	18,965	8,022	45,186
Garments remodeled.....	7,887	8,122	7,230	23,239
Garments dry cleaned.....	1,322	2,118	824	4,264
Patterns cut.....	16,735	5,774	3,899	26,408
Dress forms made.....	16,722	22,401	10,648	49,771
Total estimated saving.....	\$189,004	\$252,593	\$155,106	\$596,703
Families reporting results.....	11,487	9,248	9,488	30,223
New hats made.....	10,629	1,967	9,048	21,644
Hats remodeled.....	5,221	1,580	4,287	11,088
Total saving in hats.....	\$68,328	\$15,187	\$71,949	\$155,464

*Results of clothing work—Continued.*

Item.	Eastern.	Central.	Western.	Total.
Selection of clothing and textiles:				
Counties adopting practices.....	34	55	21	110
Communities adopting practices.....	426	433	150	1,009
Project leaders.....	463	615	102	1,179
Demonstrations established.....	979	4,236	607	5,822
Garment making:				
Counties adopting practices.....	57	74	48	179
Communities adopting practices.....	863	565	456	1,884
Project leaders.....	1,179	647	541	2,367
Demonstrations established.....	3,737	5,630	4,233	13,600
Renovating:				
Counties adopting practices.....	35	30	19	84
Communities adopting practices.....	257	157	127	541
Project leaders.....	169	244	120	533
Demonstrations established.....	600	1,034	556	2,190
Millinery:				
Counties adopting practices.....	70	55	50	175
Communities adopting practices.....	918	392	498	1,808
Project leaders.....	512	350	568	1,430
Demonstrations established.....	2,559	4,023	4,256	10,838
Dress forms:				
Counties adopting practices.....	66	100	54	220
Communities adopting practices.....	1,058	1,458	650	3,166
Project leaders.....	1,035	3,191	779	5,005
Demonstrations established.....	5,504	14,376	7,021	26,901

**HOME MANAGEMENT.**

Home management work was adopted in 1,411 communities, with 931 project leaders, who succeeded in securing 5,938 demonstrations. California, Illinois, Iowa, Maine, New York, and Washington led in the number of communities including home management in their programs. Better methods of presentation are evident, followed by an increase in the demand for the work. Although fewer water systems were installed than in 1920, good work was done in the rearrangement of kitchens and testing out of the less expensive types of equipment. On the whole, there is indication that farm women are giving more thought than ever before to the business of housekeeping with an increased use of modern equipment.

*Results of home management work.*

Item.	Eastern.	Central.	Western.	Total.
Families securing:				
Washing machines.....	330	724	63	1,117
Fireless cookers—				
Commercial.....	148	172	30	350
Homemade.....	1,037	407	228	1,672
Pressure steam cookers.....	297	600	744	1,641
Power machines for home use.....	131	807	45	983
Families installing water systems.....	89	246	57	392
Families rearranging kitchens.....	177	398	42	617
Estimated number of hours labor saved.....	55,929	93,228	136,749	285,906
Families keeping expense record.....	643	1,023	554	2,220
Families making budget.....	170	110	198	478
Families changing ways of living.....	109	133	243	485

In Washington and several other States testing circles are being used to acquaint housewives with the labor and time saving value of moderately priced equipment, such as bread mixers, hand and motor vacuum cleaners, pressure cookers, fireless cookers, and a number of smaller cooking and cleaning utensils. A testing circle

usually consists of from six to a dozen members with a leader. In the State of Washington 86 per cent of the equipment tried out in the testing circles was thus placed in homes.

In organizing kitchen tours in Hillsborough County, N. H., questionnaires were sent out by the project leader asking for information on labor-saving equipment in the homes. Replies were received from 75 per cent of the people receiving the questionnaires. These replies were examined by the project leader and home demonstration agent, and equipment to be shown the women was decided upon. The project leader made arrangements with the owners of the equipment for the visits. Six homes were visited each day and the points covered were heating, lighting, plumbing, convenient

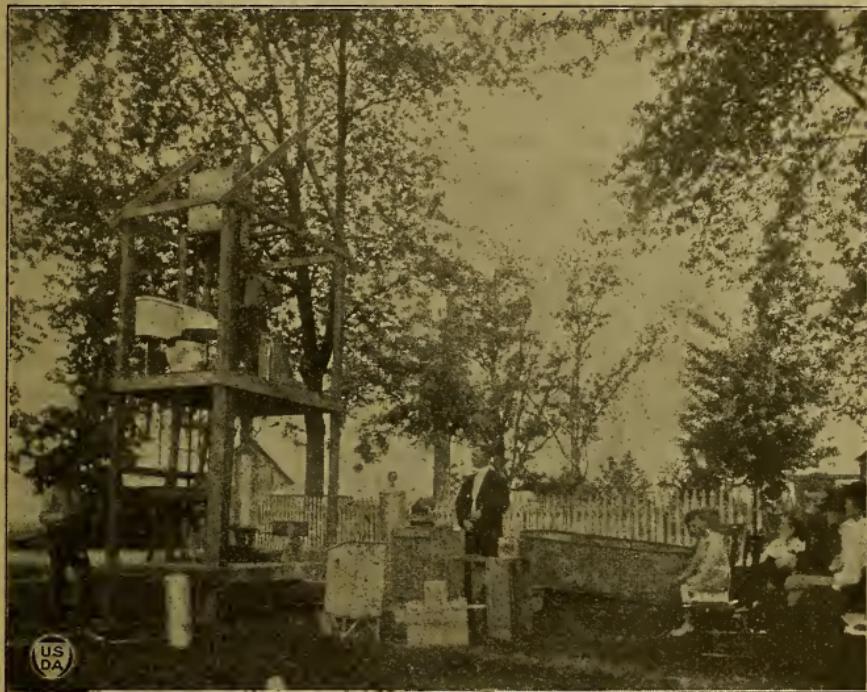


FIG. 4.—A demonstration in the installation of a farm home water system.

equipment, and efficient kitchen, as well as a combination kitchen-dining room.

In Missouri a campaign for the installation of water in the home was organized around the "home convenience truck," equipped and run by the extension service in rural engineering. This truck visited seven home demonstration counties and gave demonstrations at farm homes, schoolhouses, churches, and farm picnics in setting up and operating a farm home water system, beginning with running water in the kitchen (Fig. 4). Home demonstration agents assisted in giving preliminary publicity and in locating persons who wished to install simple or more elaborate water systems. From these seven counties the installation of 42 water systems was reported.

The State leader of home demonstration agents in Oregon made the statement in her report that the test of comfort in a modern home

is whether there is running water in the house. Frequently, she said, it seemed necessary to advocate the use of small articles which make work easier in order to get the women interested in planning for the larger and more expensive water system. Therefore time spent in stimulating interest and helping women to get labor-saving devices, such as fireless cookers, pressure cookers, and dish drainers, is not wasted, and the problem of making housework easier is attacked in a way that eventually leads to a modern house, including water and lighting systems.

Two home tours were conducted in Indiana in which remodeled, well-planned, and well-furnished homes with light and power plants were studied. Many conveniences and rearrangements can be made without a great expenditure, and the homes were selected with this in mind. One hundred light and power plants were reported installed as a direct result of the influence of extension work in Indiana, but this is not thought to be as important as the fact that people are interested in modern conveniences, and when conditions are adjusted the State leader feels confident many more homes will be equipped with the best that modern science can provide.

Home management work was carried on in all organized counties in New Mexico as a definite piece of work and to some extent in unorganized counties. As a result of this work 28 water systems were reported as having been installed. Eighteen home water systems were reported installed as a result of home demonstration work in Colorado. A community in Lincoln County, Nev., adopted the project of securing a community water system. The population of the village was too small to admit of its becoming an incorporated town, but the legislature passed a special resolution giving the community the right to bond for a water system. The taxpayers were reported as having voted to do this and the success of the project is thus assured. One of the principal home and community problems worked upon this past year in Marathon County, Wis., was the securing of labor-saving devices in the home. The project included the placing of water and lighting systems in the homes, and rearrangement of kitchens also was stressed.

#### HEALTH.

To attain better health is the goal of many rural communities, where home demonstration agents are cooperating with health agencies to this end. The agents' part in the broad health program is not work that is remedial or that calls for technical skill but work that is preventive and educational, guiding demonstrations in the adoption of improved health habits and practices in matters pertaining to nutrition, clothing, sanitation, home management, and an all-around comfortable and healthful home environment. It will be noted from the table on page 6, showing a comparative study of various projects, that the number of families adopting suggestions in connection with the health project during 1921 was nearly four times as great as it was during the previous year.

Work which was started with such activities as clean-up days, campaigns for fly control, and safeguarding the water supply as a means of eliminating sources of disease has developed a general consciousness of the importance of health and its relation to efficiency.

Home demonstration agents have worked with public health and Red Cross nurses in many counties and good results have been secured. The most favorable results, however, were secured in States where in addition to the public health nurses there was an extension health specialist. Though a health campaign conducted in Nebraska by home demonstration agents and specialists in cooperation with other agencies, 16,000 health cards were distributed and 33,000 children and adults reached. No other movement connected with home demonstration work has received heartier cooperation in Nebraska.

Many home bureaus in Illinois have been responsible for creating a health consciousness in the counties and for the securing of county nurses, but in 1921 Tazewell County took the lead in the amount of health work done. The specialist met with the advisory council to assist them in planning a year's program of work in health. Later the specialist conducted eight health schools in the county. The health chairmen were responsible for putting on a modern health crusade in the schools of the county. The report of results shows that 2,000 children completed the work of the crusade, which was an effective piece of work carried on by local leaders. The State leader of home demonstration work in Rhode Island organized health work in an isolated community. Many of the women were not familiar with simple rules of first aid and during the winter medical assistance was often unable to reach the community for weeks at a time. The work included corrective diets, methods of rest and recreation, personal hygiene, and sanitation.

*Results of health work.*

Item.	Eastern.	Central.	Western.	Total.
Persons adopting improved health habits.....	6,545	17,138	1,279	24,962
Sanitary septic tanks installed.....	100	65	76	241
Appliances installed:				
Plumbing.....	109	75	26	210
Sinks.....	101	438	57	596
Screens.....	84	549	29	662
Persons securing home medicine chests.....	82	68	44	194
Women enrolled for prenatal care.....	205	27	65	297
Community nurses employed.....	7	56	5	68
Child care:				
Counties adopting practices.....	20	33	11	64
Communities adopting practices.....	170	586	42	798
Project leaders.....	228	620	39	887
Demonstrations established.....	1,507	8,338	200	10,045
Home nursing:				
Counties adopting practices.....	37	27	16	80
Communities adopting practices.....	226	114	78	418
Project leaders.....	112	94	70	276
Demonstrations established.....	538	180	390	1,108
Sanitation:				
Counties adopting practices.....	15	13	17	45
Communities adopting practices.....	114	79	84	277
Project leaders.....	29	85	97	211
Demonstrations established.....	68	210	1,269	1,547

**FOOD PRODUCTION.**

**Poultry.**—Poultry work was among the good income-producing activities in a number of States, with an estimated value of \$600,000 in chickens raised, eggs produced, and nonproductive hens eliminated. This project proved particularly valuable in those States where farm crops could not be marketed to advantage and where the monthly check from the sale of eggs and poultry carried many families over

difficult times and made possible desired improvements in the farm homes. The poultry project started three years ago in Canyon County, Idaho, has resulted in an excellent marketing association. Poultry clubs have been so successful in one county in Connecticut that more are on the program for 1922, and other counties are also becoming interested in starting the work. A woman reported at a county meeting that as a result of the work of the adult poultry club in her community the farm income had been increased \$500.

In many States the work carried on by women was directed by county agricultural agents and specialists from the college. Minnesota and South Dakota, however, have women poultry specialists giving attention to barnyard flocks handled by girls and women on the farm. As a result of the previous work of poultry specialists and extension agents in the training of local leaders for the culling of flocks, culling is now carried on almost entirely by local people, freeing the time of the workers for demonstrations along such other phases of poultry work as housing, breeding, incubation, study of poultry diseases, methods of increasing egg production, and marketing of poultry products.

One instance of the change in culling work was reported from Kalamazoo County, Mich., where only one-third as many poultry-culling demonstration schools were held in 1921 as in 1920. The State leader interprets this as showing more independence on the part of the people and not lack of interest. The people are doing their own culling and the work that is done by the home demonstration agent is in new communities. The home demonstration agent often heard it stated that people were taking more interest in poultry since they had learned methods of building up the flock to a higher standard of egg production.

*Dairying.*—Although studies made in many counties prove that the milk supply available for country children is inadequate, reports show a decrease in the volume of work done along lines of dairying, as only 23 counties reported dairying activities as a part of home demonstration work during 1921.

Cheese making was carried on in Wyoming and some other Western States where low prices paid for butter fat during summer months made this desirable as a means of preserving the milk supply. Most of the cheese was used on the family table. However, it proved profitable when sold. It was estimated that the amount of cheese reported as being made in three Western States was worth \$8,000.

*Gardening.*—Gardening projects were carried on in a number of States. Among many interesting accounts of gardening work reported were two from Arizona and North Dakota. In Arizona, following the food demonstrations for greater use of vegetables in the family diet, stress was placed on the economy and thrift of home production. The goal was that every farm garden produce sufficient vegetables for the family in season and for storage out of season. In a climate that permits of the all-year garden this project is considered to have possibilities of great value as a means toward health and thrift. The home demonstration agents in Divide and Williams Counties, N. Dak., had groups working on gardening as a means of providing sufficient green vegetables to insure a balanced ration.

These counties are in the drought-stricken section of the State where crops have been unsuccessful for several years and where it has been somewhat difficult for farmers' wives to furnish balanced rations for their families.

#### FOOD PRESERVATION.

While demonstrations in methods of canning of fruits and vegetables have decreased or been practically eliminated from the program of many home demonstration agents as this activity has been taken over by the local people, there is still need, which is in a measure being met, for information along lines of canning and curing meats, drying fruits and vegetables, and storing food products from the home garden and orchard, with emphasis upon a food budget which considers the supply of food laid away in season from the standpoint of a balanced diet the year around.

One phase of home demonstration work reported as of equal interest to both men and women in Meade County, Kans., was that of meat canning and the use of the pressure cooker for this purpose. Nineteen pressure cookers were in use in the county in 1921, while in 1919 there was but one. Over 4,000 quarts of meat, representing 10,000 pounds, including various cuts of beef and pork, sausages, chicken, and soups, were canned to be used during harvest time, and it was reported that probably one-half of the harvest laborers in the county ate meat from glass jars during the summer of 1921. At prevailing retail prices, the meat canned was valued at \$2,000. Insistence by the home demonstration agent on the use of standard containers, new jar lids and rubbers, and strict adherence to the United States Department of Agriculture canning bulletins has resulted in this enterprise being practically 100 per cent efficient. Vegetables and fruits amounting to nearly 1,500 quarts also were reported canned in Meade County.

The following table shows the amount of work done in food preservation during the year, the total value of the products preserved being estimated at \$811,998.

*Results of food preservation work.*

Item.	Eastern.	Central.	Western.	Total.
Families reporting.....	4,227	2,757	1,945	8,929
Canned fruits, quarts.....	196,800	256,775	180,686	634,261
Jellies and jams, quarts.....	55,643	37,187	37,660	130,490
Dried fruits, pounds.....	1,196	1,986	7,290	10,472
Canned vegetables, quarts.....	140,661	107,968	89,193	337,822
Brined vegetables, quarts.....	28,653	6,019	9,735	44,407
Dried vegetables, pounds.....	2,531	4,205	6,305	13,041
Value of fruits and vegetables.....	\$148,226	\$179,152	\$189,883	\$517,261
Poultry canned, quarts.....	7,157	4,353	6,547	18,057
Beef, pork, and other meats preserved, pounds.....	180,560	560,081	198,084	938,725
Lard made, pounds.....	19,706	154,087	31,012	204,805
Value of poultry, meats, and lard.....	\$54,104	\$119,803	\$66,409	\$240,316
Eggs preserved, dozens.....	8,306	94,544	7,761	110,611
Value of eggs.....	\$4,330	\$46,540	\$3,551	\$54,421

#### HOUSE PLANNING AND FURNISHING.

Work in home furnishing and the improvement of grounds was carried on in 483 communities, as indicated in the table on page 6, showing a comparative study of various projects.

Regarding the home furnishing demonstration in San Diego County, Calif., the State leader reported that seven centers chose the subject in the spring of 1921. In order to carry on the work as a real home demonstration, it was suggested that the method of "locating demonstrations" be adopted as is done in county agent work. The plan was indorsed by the county committee and a simple project was drawn up. This provided for the choosing of two living rooms in each farm home department center to be located as demonstrations, the rooms to be redecorated according to plans agreed upon by the specialist and local demonstrators. Both men and women acted in this capacity, indicating the interest of the entire family in the project. Demonstration meetings attended by all interested persons were first held in these rooms. Twenty-seven different families were present at the meetings at the demonstration homes to observe progress, and suggestions were adopted by 43 families in the communities, which shows the spread of influence. At one meeting 125 people were present, and 20 automobiles were in line as they went from home to home. The homes in which the demonstrations were held were modest in character, the demonstrators were working people in moderate circumstances, the suggestions made by the specialist entailed small expense to the demonstrators, and the changes made in the homes as a result of the demonstrations were simple and inexpensive, but were of a kind to materially increase the commercial value of the homes.

This demonstration in home furnishing in San Diego County is worthy of special attention, as it shows the possibilities of a well-organized home demonstration activity which has been outlined to fit the needs of the community.

It was reported from New Mexico that 18 new houses were planned and 35 remodeled with the assistance of home demonstration agents. In addition, 25 single rooms were remodeled and 18 houses and 28 single rooms redecorated. The agents also gave information on landscape gardening to owners of 131 homes.

*Results of house planning and furnishing work.*

Item.	Eastern.	Central.	Western.	Total.
<b>Houses planned (new).....</b>	5	42	43	90
<b>Houses remodeled.....</b>	17	102	77	196
<b>Single rooms remodeled.....</b>	30	188	63	281
<b>Homes redecorated and furnished.....</b>	32	147	48	227
<b>Single rooms redecorated.....</b>	13	151	67	231
<b>Landscape gardening.....</b>	40	149	165	354
<b>Trees planted.....</b>		314	1,496	1,810
<b>Shrubs planted.....</b>		478	1,238	1,716
<b>Flowers planted.....</b>		4,406	44,000	48,406
<b>Building and remodeling:</b>				
Counties adopting practices.....	11	14	11	36
Communities adopting practices.....	42	39	47	128
Project leaders.....	21	40	26	87
Demonstrations established.....	159	123	42	324
<b>Decorating and furnishing:</b>				
Counties adopting practices.....	13	26	14	53
Communities adopting practices.....	73	131	64	268
Project leaders.....	28	117	39	184
Demonstrations established.....	365	593	177	1,135
<b>Planning home grounds:</b>				
Counties adopting practices.....	4	15	8	27
Communities adopting practices.....	5	45	37	87
Project leaders.....	2	31	28	61
Demonstrations established.....	14	69	485	568

COMMUNITY ENTERPRISES.

The influence of home demonstration work in the civic and social life and standards of the community has been marked in many instances. Activities have been carried on which have not only proved of interest to the entire family group but have aroused and developed community consciousness as well. This consciousness has found expression in community trading centers, recreation centers, libraries, rest rooms, and State and county fairs. The reports cite many instances of neighbors joining together in a project, accepting responsibility and leadership.

In the belief that farm people need to smile and to get acquainted with their neighbors as much as they need to know the latest facts about tractors or a new recipe for cooking, the New York home bureaus arrange for recreation of many varieties. Community parties, banquets, picnics, plays, community singing, and even pageantry have been organized to reach not only the farm and home bureau members, but all who desire to attend, there being an open-door policy in all their community work. There are three permanent community kitchens, as centers for information on better housekeeping; four summer canning kitchens, two thrift shops, and six thrift exchanges that are being successfully operated as a result of the activities of home bureau women. Through these exchanges and shops in New York, home makers are able to turn into money the by-products of their industry without neglecting their housekeeping duties.

A town in Williams County, N. Dak., has a public market day. The county agricultural agent was active in establishing the market where farmers may sell the produce of their farms, and the home demonstration agent has been instrumental in interesting the women in bringing their garden and dairy products to be disposed of at the market. In this way the women receive better prices than formerly.

Home demonstration agents in their work in Montana during 1921 gave first consideration to projects which emphasized the practical things of life and were economic in value, but an effort also was made to increase community activities, community recreation, beautification of home and community grounds, and to help in building a strong citizenship and an improved civilization.

SPECIALISTS.

It is not possible to discuss adequately the results of home demonstration work without taking into account the part played by the specialists. Such results are the product of good team work between the agent and the specialist. A study of home demonstration agent reports shows that outstanding results on a state-wide scale in any single project have almost invariably been dependent upon the counsel and assistance of an efficient specialist.

The home demonstration agent, whose continuous contact with the people makes it possible for her to understand intimately their needs and problems, is able to organize for the work, watch its progress, and see that it is rounded out and completed. She is, however, by the nature of her training and service, an organizer, not a specialist. Hence the importance of strong extension special-

ists in the various phases of home economics to help the agent and her project leaders to diagnose the needs of the county and to suggest, out of their more thorough training in special subjects and their State-wide experience and observation, clear-cut plans for presenting the work, clarifying its aims, organizing and supervising home demonstrations, and collecting data of results.

During 1921 there were at work in the 33 Northern and Western States 79 full-time specialists in various branches of home economics. In addition, there were vacancies to be filled, specialists on leave of absence, or specialists listed as district agents to the number of 9, making a total for the 33 Northern and Western States of 88 specialists. Of these, 3 were classed as directors of specialists,



FIG. 5.—A training school for local leaders.

28 as specialists in food and nutrition, 30 in clothing and house furnishing, 13 in home management, 5 in home health and sanitation, 2 women poultry specialists, 2 junior specialists, and 5 general home economics specialists.

The recent expansion of the field of home economics specialists' work is brought out by the fact that 10 of the 30 clothing specialists, 7 of the 28 nutrition specialists, and 5 of the 13 home management specialists entered the work after July 1, 1921.

An important service rendered by the specialists during 1921 was the training of groups of local leaders. (Fig. 5.) The groups were limited in number, usually from 8 to 15 people, but supplied sufficiently intensive training and drill in practical work and in leadership methods to enable the leaders to return to their communities

and demonstrate to a small group of neighbors what they had been taught.

Two specialist conferences of marked value were held in 1921, one at Ithaca, N. Y., October 17, and the other at St. Paul, Minn., October 31. The nutrition project was chosen for consideration at these conferences, because it was already outstanding and rapidly increasing in importance.

The influence of these conferences can already be seen in a tendency on the part of specialists to emphasize the acquiring of right food habits by adults and children; to stress the raising of an adequate garden and to make and live up to a food-preservation budget that will supply the needed vegetables and fruits all the year around; to introduce home demonstrations in the practical application of the principles of nutrition; and to use local leadership to a greater extent.

In previous years the home economics specialist was encouraged to devote most of her time to work in counties employing home demonstration agents, but in the past two years the tendency has been to do an increasing amount of work in counties which had no home demonstration agents, but which had agricultural or club agents. While in such counties it is frequently more difficult to select suitable local leaders for training groups than in home demonstration agent counties, a surprisingly large proportion of the clothing and millinery work was handled through local leaders in 1921, and there is an increasing tendency to use this method in other projects.

As in previous years, home economics specialists helped to lay plans, prepare subject matter, and train volunteer leaders for various lines of girls' club work, and they cooperated with other specialists, as, for example, with horticultural specialists in gardening and fruit growing, with dairy specialists in milk campaigns (Fig. 6), with rural engineering specialists in home planning, and with farm management specialists in farm and home accounts.

#### WORK WITH BOYS AND GIRLS.

Young people of the communities have taken an active part in the unified program and boys' and girls' club work has been in many instances closely correlated with the other work of the home. This has been especially true where county club agents have been employed to devote their full time to club work. In other counties home demonstration agents have given what help they could in supervising the girls' work and, conversely, county club agents have been of service in the women's work in counties where home demonstration agents were not employed. This unifying of effort has resulted not only in increased volume of work but in unity of purpose.

Reports indicate that the time consumed by agents in directing the work of boys and girls has diminished, but that there has been a marked increase in the number of women trained as local leaders. Assistance has been given by agents in training these leaders and in cooperating with the State club leader in planning the year's program and in giving guidance to the work.

Annual reports show that of the 4,221 communities which adopted one or more projects, 801 included work with boys and girls. The principal lines were garment work, food work, and own-your-own-

room clubs. One of the most interesting of the groups in work in home accounting and equipment for the organization of household work in Pennsylvania was that of a club of girls who kept personal accounts. In connection with the accounts they had discussions on how to apportion and use their money for food, clothing, recreation, books, etc. Several States reported that the interest created by the girls in their club work had stimulated activity with men and women. In one particular instance an active garment-making club resulted in a community program of work for men, women, and juniors where previously it had been difficult to create interest. There was an increase in 1921 of 40 per cent in the total number of club members enrolled who completed their work.



FIG. 6.—A window demonstration in an Ohio milk campaign.

#### URBAN WORK.

Agricultural colleges in seven States cooperated during 1921 with city organizations in maintaining home demonstration work. The 11 cities where agents were employed and fine service rendered were as follows: Council Bluffs, Iowa; Holyoke and Quincy, Mass.; Duluth and Minneapolis, Minn.; Paterson, N. J.; Salt Lake City, Utah; Spokane, Wash.; and Buffalo, Syracuse, and Rochester, N. Y., Rochester coming forward with a \$10,000 budget to start the work.

This work, supported entirely by State and local funds, has proved of real value to city women. Better use of the income; supplementary food for undernourished school children; learning how to prepare food economically and attractively, to market, to buy ready-made

clothing, to choose a lunch for the business woman, to test textiles, and what equipment to buy; and supplementing the income by hand-work at home are a few of the many problems which have been met for the individual housekeeper.

Probably no other public agency has been more fruitful in breaking down artificial barriers and providing a common meeting ground for country and city women than urban home demonstration work.

#### **QUALIFICATIONS OF HOME DEMONSTRATION WORKERS.**

While home demonstration work is a challenge to the best talent, training, and character among women educators, because of its opportunity for service and its professional future, the supply of workers has scarcely kept up with the demand. One main reason for this is that the work calls for peculiar training and experience not possessed by all who might be attracted to the field. This is illustrated by the following general statement of qualifications which would ideally meet the requirements:

Women 25 years of age or older, with degrees of bachelor of science in home economics, in agriculture, or in related subject matter; with successful experience in teaching or other lines, to prove leadership and organizing ability are desired; mature judgment, deep sympathies, and genuine understanding of practical problems of the rural home and community; a good speaking presence and voice; and a broad sociological background are all valuable assets. Women are preferred who have been brought up in the country and have graduated from land-grant colleges, thus developing a keen appreciation of the problems of the farm home as well as a keen enjoyment and the love of rural life and being able to help farm men and women to plan and carry out programs of work which will raise standards of living and help to unify and organize forces for the enrichment and stabilizing of country life.

The average salary of home demonstration agents during 1921 was \$2,085. Of this, \$1,416 was paid from Federal and State funds and \$669 from county funds. The maximum salary paid any home demonstration agent was \$2,400; the minimum, \$1,000.

Professional standards for the workers in this field are constantly being raised as the work expands and becomes crystallized into an established phase of education, with a professional future and outlook. The majority of home demonstration agents now employed are women reared in an agricultural environment who understand and can therefore appreciate the problems, responsibilities, and opportunities of the farm woman.

A study made of the training of 217 home demonstration agents employed during 1921 indicated that 151 had attended agricultural colleges and that 113 of these had received bachelor degrees, 6 securing master degrees. Sixty-three of the agents had attended agricultural colleges within the States in which they were working. Of the agents attending agricultural colleges 91 had also attended other colleges and normal schools, receiving 22 bachelor degrees and 2 master degrees. Agents who attended colleges and schools other than agricultural colleges received 26 bachelor degrees and 1 master degree. While the requirements vary in the States, increasing care is taken to secure women of adequate training.

Heads of home economics departments are meeting their responsibility in the development of home demonstration work by organizing and offering special courses so coordinated with the agricultural and other departments as to give students adequate subject matter.

Added to this, in some cases State leaders have supervised such cadet experience in county work as is deemed necessary to equip students for this service.

#### ADVANCEMENT OF THE WORK.

Judging the home demonstration work during 1921 by goals set, forces available, and methods used there is evidence on every hand that workers have been efficient, progress has been made, and expenditure of public funds for this purpose justified.

It is believed that figures quoted in the tables here given are more nearly accurate than in former years, due to the fact that reports have been made in more orderly form—by projects rather than by communities—and that local women have given more generous service in collecting data than ever before. It is not possible, however, to measure the status of this work as efficiency in production and values of farm crops may be measured. In work such as this, which deals with improvement of health, greater contentment, fuller individual and community experience, and the vitalization of all country life, where the human equation is paramount, only a perspective can be gained. The perspective of the home demonstration work in 1921 indicates a gradual enrichment of rural conditions through the rise of standards all along the line.

The principle of local leadership is recognized as a cardinal factor in the work. It implies not only accomplishment on certain projects but general development of community initiative and teamwork and is accepted by the home demonstration agents as they see the life and vigor it puts into the work. Practically every State has made definite plans for training groups of local people to extend subject matter, supervise demonstrations, and collect data on results.

As the home demonstration agent's work progresses and crystallizes into a system of service she attempts more and more to study local conditions. The effort of home demonstration agents to study local conditions, to base their work on community needs, and to guide farm women themselves into active participation in determining and shaping projects to be undertaken has been more successful this year than ever before. With systematic steps of procedure and with goals defined home demonstration agents are guiding more than leading in home and community activities and are attaching increased importance to the selection of local women leaders, choice being based upon ability and willingness to lead, belief in the project undertaken, and a certain amount of skill and facility in the particular line of work at hand.

Progress has been made during the past year toward cementing the interest of all the people through a common program of work in which the home demonstration agent's part has been more effective because tempered with the viewpoint of other workers, as each has contributed to the service as a whole.

Recognition is increasingly given to the leadership of farm women. Rural organizations through which extension work functions are placing women on executive committees, depending upon their leadership in membership campaigns, and recognizing women's power in guiding home projects. By this means many counties without home demonstration agents are able to carry on work of great

value to the home through the support and encouragement given to women leaders by the home economics specialist and the county agricultural agent. Where home economics projects are thus carried on they have paved the way for the later introduction of home demonstration work.

County appropriations are increasing in amount, showing that the local people take pride in the work and are willing to assume responsibility for it.

The function of the specialist is better understood and her relationship to the community program is better worked out, resulting in her having a definite part in supervising her project from the State college office. More definite goals of achievement are set, these goals being in terms of improved processes.

The academic program is making way for one based upon work and community conditions with the united community program. There is a more frank recognition of the fact that all the work, in its last analysis, is for the purpose of building up a good farm home, which is the center of farm life. There is an increased number of projects having a common interest for the whole family.

Demonstrations are becoming increasingly practical, and it is realized more fully than before that the value of the agent's work lies wholly in her ability to establish good home practices in keeping with the economic and social needs of the families and communities served. No matter how far-reaching her ultimate goal, the approach of the successful home demonstration agent is simple, practical, and but one step in advance of the present practices of the home maker, and her subject matter is so chosen as to lend itself well to the simplest types of demonstration.

While there are still many counties throughout the Northern and Western States that know little of the work of the home demonstration agent, her systematic service has improved farm home conditions in many communities, as is testified to by thousands of home makers.

Home demonstration work has from the beginning sustained an important relationship to the extension service as a whole, helping to secure and establish a reasonable balance between extension work which has to do with production and that which has to do with the higher values of farm and home life. It has increased efficiency and improved the economic status of farming, but its principal mission has been to help men and women who are building the home life of rural America to provide in the country those living conditions which should be available for every farm family and community.

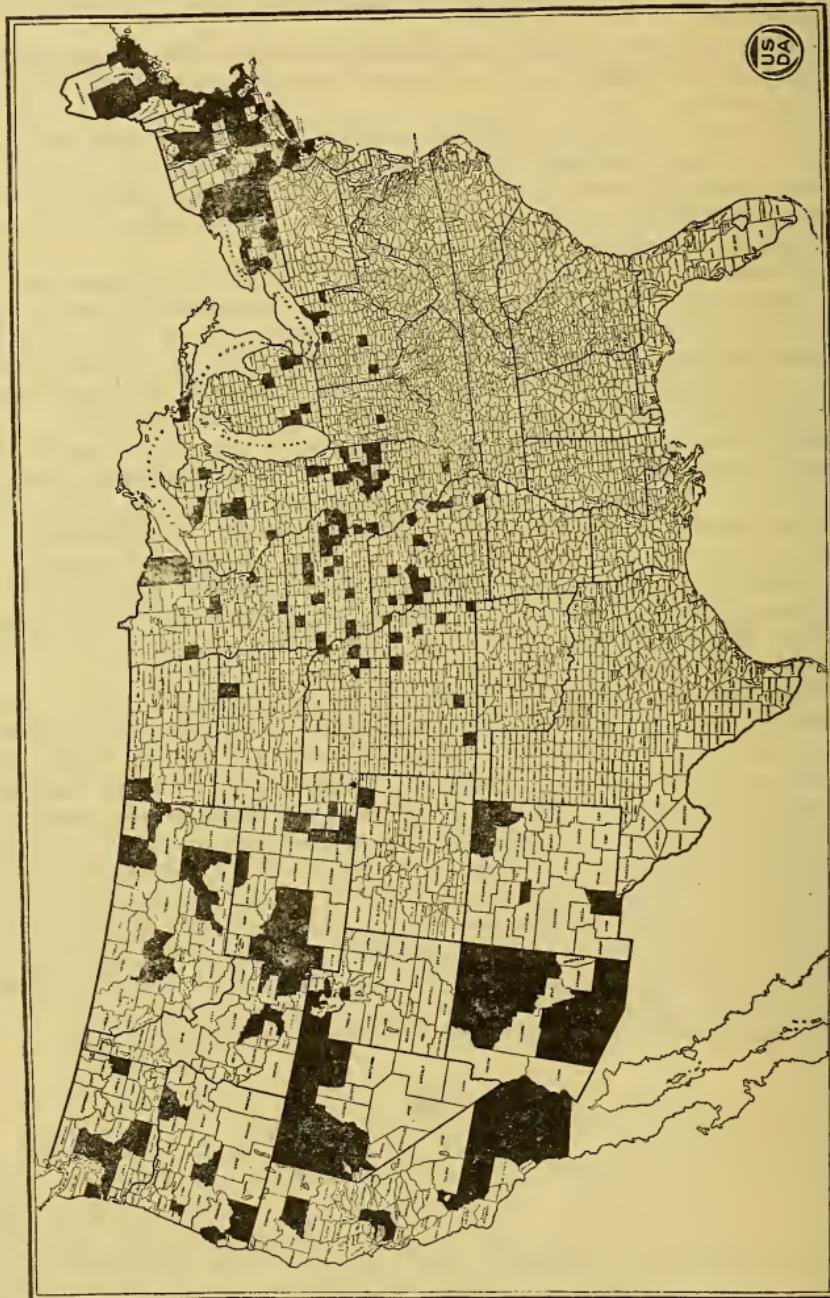


FIG. 7.—Distribution of home demonstration work in the Northern and Western States, July 1, 1921.



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